

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 IO-10 /061 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - FJTATU:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

EA/P - WMAGRUDER (DRAFT)

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O 292221Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TH, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: REPORTED KHUKRIT STATEMENT ON MILITARY AGREEMENTS
WITH US

1. UPI JULY 28 CARRIED AN ITEM WITH THE LEAD "THAILAND
CONSIDERS ALL MILITARY AGREEMENTS WITH US NULL AND VOID,
EXCEPT THOSE UNDER SEATO, AND WANTS US TROOPS TO LEAVE BY
MARCH 20. PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT STATED THE POSITION OF
HIS GOVERNMENT SUNDAY AFTER RETURNING FROM A WEEK-LONG
TRIP TO THE PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE..."
2. THIS ITEM WAS BRIEFLY NOTED IN THE WASHINGTON POST AND
THE NEW YORK TIMES ON THE SAME DAY, BUT IT GENERATED NO
QUESTIONS AT STATE OR DOD PRESS BRIEFINGS JULY 28 OR 29.
3. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PREPARED:
THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAS NOT COMMUNICATED TO US ANY SUGGES-
TION THAT OUR MILITARY AGREEMENTS, WHICH ARE LIMITED IN
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SCOPE AND NUMBER, HAVE BEEN ABROGATED. AS TO THE LATTER

PART OF THE QUESTION, WE HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY ADVISED THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE OUR TROOPS TO LEAVE BY NEXT MARCH. WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE THAI ON THE TIMING AND NATURE OF OUR TROOP DRAWDOWN.

QUESTION: WHAT SORT OF MILITARY AGREEMENTS DO WE HAVE WITH THE THAI?

ANSWER: WE ARE ALIGNED WITH THE THAI IN THE MULTILATERAL MANILA PACT OR "SEATO TREATY" OF 1954. ON A BILATERAL BASIS THERE ARE AGREEMENTS WHICH COVER OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND AND OUR SPECIALIZED U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND.

4. WE HAVE CAREFULLY PERUSED THE FBIS REPORT OF KHUKRIT'S RETURN PRESS CONFERENCE (BK 280516) AND FIND NO STATEMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE PROVOKED UPI'S LEAD.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS AS TO WHERE KHUKRIT MIGHT HAVE SAID THIS AND AS TO WHAT HE MIGHT HAVE MEANT BY IT. INGERSOLL

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